Meeting a Sissy Traveling Man on the Train.

HIS ATTENTION IS ABSORBED

He Overhears the Pathetic Wall of Stout Lady and Deals With a Request Frum Alonso Beicher.

The able critic who has held out for ars that Mrs. Stowe had excluded the ities of poetic liveuse when she need Eliza as escaping over the Oftio giver on calcus of ion is now dead. He ded in Florids in January from exew while skuting on the St. John's and when they found him friends had to cut out a square rod, perch or pole of ice with his body in order to send

He always maintained that the Ohio river never even from enough to make a cake of the between Cincinnati and Caro. Last January Eliza with her infant child could have crossed over with bobsleds and a 4-horse team.



In West Virginia we had to have all stoven and a furnace poing all day in the sera house, as well us the entire gas service, including factlights, in order to warm up for evening service, and even then we were white sweaters and aboulder breakfast shawls over our dress. anits on the stage.

Natural gas is getting less plentiful, and the demand increased so that there was great suffering from cold among the poor, who had to return to the electric light and cast aside their parlor gas logs for the time. Heavy manufacturing enterprises also decrease the quantity of gae for home consumption, and as usual the corporation sails gayly on while the citizen has to go to bed to get warm.

t W How strangely mankind does! We go and beg on bended knees for harge corporations to come and build and do business in our town to raise the price of our lots, and yet how long is it re we write a piece for the county paper saying that we are driven to the tion, and they could not cut it off at the wall by these great corporations, and that we hate them like everything?

ren in th We are only child dressed up in men's clothes, and I hope with Dr. Briggs that there is a chance in the future state for growth and development. I can see how I could grow in a inture state and add to what I now

During the terrible reign of the cold | property. we met on a train one day bound west the carest thing I over saw on earthvis., a "sissy" traveling man. Travel-ing men are most generally business men. They have to be. They are mostly pretty rogged, musculine men, with voices that you can hear "the darkest might that ever bleve."

This one was constantly running up against things that were just as rude as they could be. That was as far as he sver got. Some people were real hateful, and he chemed that once his blood boiled like everything

Maybe it was the morning when he book a sponge buth in the north end of the alcoper at Pittsburg, as the train took breakfast there. You must know that the sponge bath facilities cannot be just what one would wish on a sleeping car, especially when one has to do it in the front door way at a meal station with the thermometer at 15 degrees below zero and a great deal of passing in and out.

Still he had probably promised some dear one colemnly that he would bathe every morning if it cost him his life.

People filed past him filled with wonder and amenument, and to each one he said in a light, thin, girlish voice, "Beg pardon, but would you mind shutting that dies!"

Nine of on after we had passed by him, went to the other end of the car and passed through again three times, enjoying it beartily.

Once we met the man who brings in the im for the cooler. He was near the ong man who was trying to bathe. We had quite a long quarrel with the ferman over the right of way, and one of enr party jostled him radely against the young man, who was trying to town his The iceman slipped, and his bego care of hee and the great mares tengs also full against him.
It was howible. The young man gave

a wild shriek, and with a moun of pain his Boulanger whiskers went back inwide and it is said have never come out

fater on after breakfast I tried to make up to him and be friendly, but he furned upon me like a wild beset and exclaimed, "The bother?"

I overheard yesterday the wail of the short, stout lady. She was looking at a fashion numbering, but she could not find. maything to sult her.

This you ever notice," she said to her. convention, a felf, lithe string woman. who was so long waisted, that she never seemed to sit down at all, or to be sitting on her foot if she did at down, "did you some notice that nothing is ever designed for the short, stout wolties in these may

"Well. I do not esmember ever to have seen any dudyna for short pinner propla" said Ethil, shouting her out, spiral | possibly later, your folks walked on wis peak out of our count so as to look still

Palvertness and of ormeware regarded for the fishion plate makers as deformities, the wrist instead of forward, thus indiand you have to go and got stem special cating that you will gradually, as years artist to work at it to design your circles. Poll on, add noise and more to what you that on you would so to a specialist if , do not know,

BILL NYE EN ROUTE | you had a club foot and get him to make our boot for you."
"Why is it, do you suppose?" Ethe

saked with great, wondering eyes.
"I do not know," said the short, ste lady as she swing her feet back and forth like a baby in a high chair. "There ere surely enough of us, and some of us are quite refined. You know it is not illy believed that stout women are they would on a man who rides on one railroad ticket and carries a hive of busy bees with him in the same seat, or puts the hive there, at least, and lets the bees

"Yes, that is so," said Ethel, "but those who know you love you if you are stout. That's more than some can

say whom I know of."

"I hope so," said the short, stout lady, with a tear in her eye as she tried to get her overshoe on by kicking it against the other foot, but only succeeded in fracturing a whalebone or two and tip-

fracturing a whalebone or two and tipping her hat down over her nose.

"There ought to be some recompense. We are ashamed to ask for clothing of our size, and nobody ever attempted to design anything for us especia 4/, for we wouldn't wear it anyway, no matter how becoming it was, if it had got to be the uniform of the fat women of the universe, and so there you are."

Then they both had to get off the train there, and Ethel had to borrow a traveling man's sample case for the short.

eling man's sample case for the short, stout lady to step on as she got off the

I have not been richly endowed by na-ture with the fatal gift of beauty, but it might have been worse than it is, though when I pass through a car and afterward look back and see the passengers examstill running I can think of the short, stout lady and say, What if I, too, had been thus?

Written in a childish hand comes a request from little Alonzo Belcher of East Rawlee's Center asking this paper how he can cure soreness of the tongue. Alonzo, it seems, during the cold weather was acting as understudy for the property man at East Rawlse's Center, and one of the other stage hands, a bright young intelligence, thus fitting y whaleback farmer, got Alonzo to accept, duty as a juror in the future a wager that he (Alonzo) could not erase with his tougue the name of Pistache Oleson, the rising young Swedish nightingale and child wonder, which she (Miss Oleson) had written in blue chalk on the gas pipe of her dressing room while at the Grand Opera House of East Rawlse's

Alonzo accepted the wager and now writes to ask about what he shall do. Alonzo has a large, copious tongue, which almost encircled the gas pipe, and outlines of it may still be seen there. For one night be and the opera house occupied the same apartments. The next day they jogged along together till about noon, when the other stage hands told the authorities, and steps were taken to arrange it so that the opera house and young Belcher could be used separately.

You see, you dare not cut out a piece of gas pipe that way for fear of asphyxiameter, it seems, as the company had arranged it so that gas would be "conng, whether the house was opened or not, and they did not see how they could change it.

A hot shoehorn, however, was applied to the tongue, and soon the little sufferer was removed from the real estate and again became his own personal

He went home, he exclaims in the letter, feeling like a man that has a redhot cuttle bone in his mouth and cannot get it out. Ever since then he has communicated with the outside world wholly by means of the pen. No one can even think of his great sorrow without a bitter and somewhat brackish tear.

How puny are our efforts when we find ourselves in the act of violating a great natural law! We must not get on the mighty turntable of creation or try to cross the side tracks of solar systems as we are employees.

Mr. Belcher will do well to bathe the sore place with witch hazel as often as the idea occurs to him, and keep a piece of siled silk between the tongue and roof of the mouth, so that the two shall not unite and become one grand whole, to the injury of the grand hole that he has been in the habit of swallowing through.



YOUNG BELCHER'S MISTAKE.

Some put the tongue in the sling-s gin sling, perhaps -nuder those circumstances, but the gin does not assist the healing process, and it induces the tongue to war too freely. One of the greatest wage I ever knew was a gift sling was. But why introduce punper made, imported jokes at such a time?

Mr. Beicher (which, by the way, is simply a pseudonym) writes also regarding his fainre, inclusing a chart of his palm and a lock of hair, siking to know what the future of one passessing those things

The thumb is marked strongly and ger. would indicate that in your early life. you widthed toward yourself a good it. Fromlerblare deal; also that not many generations back poor ancestors competed with the woodpecker in their glad, free sendle for food in the forest; also that during the early part of the eighteenth century, paim of the hand a good deal and resemhied the Highbehind or Bluenosel bab-

Nort said the short, stout lady; con of Lake Dennis, in equatorial Africa. The headline runs backward toward



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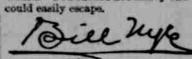
The hair does not indicate anything, and I would have respected you more if you had told me you had none.

It is good, vigorous hair and seems to grow quite rank, indicating that you are of a lymphatic temperament and have a cool skin well adapted to the growth of hair and whiskers, too, that will toes to and fro in the summer breeze as you grow to be a man and while you are adding all the time to your lack of intelligence, thus fitting yourself for

Your hair would indicate that you inherit from your father's side, and that you are not strong physically. You need out of door exercise, cheerful company

and a shampoo.

In choosing a wife you had better select a lady with a wooden limb. Then you can keep the limb locked up in the bureau drawer, and she will no doubt re main at home more than she otherwis would. You should not marry one who



CHRONIC WOES.

Nothing to do but week, Nothing to eat but good, Nothing to wear out siothe To keep one from going a

Nothing to breathe but air; Quick as a flash 'tis genu; Nowhere to fall but off, Nowhere to stand but on,

Nothing to comb but hair, Nowhere to sleep but in bed, Nothing to weep but tears, Nothing to bury but dead.

Nothing to see but sights, Nothing to quench but thirst, Nothing to have but what we've got. Thus through life we are cursed.

Nothing to strike but a gnit; Everything moves that goes; Nothing at all but common sense Can ever withstand these woes. —Chicago Mail.

The Legicon of Youth. Parents cannot be too careful how they answer the apparently trivial ques-tions of their children. It would al-most seem as if a child's dictionary were a necessity of the age. Here is an illus-

"Pa," said a little chap to his father, "what does a man mean when he says, "'Til fix you?"

"Means that he'll do him up," answered the father briefly. "But, then, what does 'do him up'

"Bother! You ask too many questions, child. It means that he is going to kill

The little fellow was silenced for the time; but, as events proved, he thought over the subject. Soon after he was taken ill, and the family doctor being absent a strange physician was sum-

monel. Left alone with him for a few

moments the little fellow began to ask "Gaing to cure me, doctor?" he in-

"Yes, yes, my little man," said the doctor, who was preparing a dose, "I'm

going to fix you. What was the doctor's surprise to see a small, white robed figure dart from the bed and make a bee line for the door, through which he disappeared. The asfound him sobbing in his mother's arms. To her he was relating his fears that the doctor intended to "fix" him in the sense that his father had defined the work to him a few weeks before. Detroit Free

Arranging a Bet.

Traveler. We are sure to have fine weather tomorrow. Landlord-I bet it will rain.

Traveler-Very good. What will you Landlord-A bottle of wine if you

Traveler-What sort? Landlord-A bottle of my Granchy-

Traveler-All right, the loser to drink

Evidence of Good Faith. "Of course you are willing to work," nesser real the lady

"How can you doubt it," protested the tramp when after a short reat he attacked with renewed vigor the chicken leg she had given him .- Introit Tribune.

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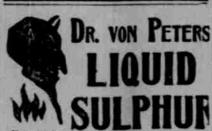
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